



E. Blesiot

The Talon

Rocky Mountain Arsenal and Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuges Volunteer Newsletter

June 2005

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June Volunteer Meeting

Mandatory Meeting

Thursday, June 16, 2005 at 7 pm at the Visitor Center. Please plan on attending this meeting. Agenda will include informative guest speakers and a video of the eagle banding! See you there! If you can not attend please call Jeannine at (303) 289-0471.

THANK TANK

The Refuge staff would like to extend an extra special **thank you** to those volunteers who were able to assist with the Fishing Fever event on Saturday, May 14. Two hundred and eighty-three people visited the Refuge, many for the first time. While the turn-out wasn't as large as we had anticipated, it was still a great day. Everything ran smoothly from set-up to tear-down. Again, thank you for a job well done and as always we could not have done it without your assistance!

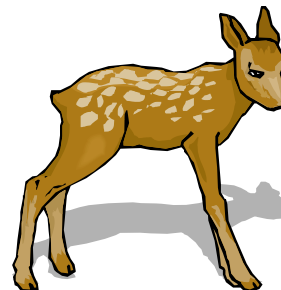


Volunteer Appreciation Event 2005

Refuge staff hosted the sixteenth annual volunteer appreciation dinner on Thursday, April 21. The evening consisted of a cakewalk, bird trivia, entertainment from Adams City High School's choir and of course a wonderful mexican meal that was prepared and served by Refuge staff. For those of you who were able to attend, thank you for taking part in a celebration of your accomplishments. We hope you enjoyed your evening and for those of you who were unable to attend, your presence was missed! We could not accomplish all that we do without all your hard work and dedication, again thank you for making a difference!

Wildlife and Habitat Update

The Refuge is home to some new youthful residents! The nesting pair of bald eagles hatched their eaglet on Easter Sunday. On Monday, May 16, 2005 the eaglet was banded and the first fawn was spotted!



On April 21, the first prairie dog pups were spotted, so keep your eyes on the town for some young ones!

The fire crew at RMANWR has had a busy season! The crew has burned 701 acres in 14 burns.

Visit our website <http://rockymountainarsenal.fws.gov/>

Calendar of Events



Tour Guide Meeting

Saturday, June 25, 2005 1pm at the Visitor Center



June Volunteer Meeting

Thursday, June 16, 2005
7pm at the Visitor Center



Please note volunteer meetings and trainings are mandatory! If you are unable to attend please contact your supervisor. Thank you!

Arsenal Ambassadors Training

Wednesday June 8, 10 am at the Visitor Center.

Welcome Aboard!



You may have noticed a few new faces around the Refuge! I would like to welcome Richard Prew and Jim Almand. Richard is a Visitor Center Assistant during the week and Jim can be found on the trails or helping out in the Visitor Center on the weekends. If you run into Richard or Jim, give them a warm Refuge welcome and introduce yourself!



Extended Weekend Hours

Your Refuge is open until sunset for hiking and fishing on Saturday, June 4, Sunday, June 19, Saturday, July 2 and Sunday, July 17.

Rocky Mountain Arsenal and Two Ponds National Wildlife Refuges Receive National Trail Recognition

On Friday, June 3, 2005 Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton announced the designation of two trail networks at RMANWR and two trails at Two Ponds NWR as National Recreation Trails (NRT). These are the first NRTs designated on any national wildlife refuge in Colorado. National Recreation Trails are designated by the Secretary of Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture and recognize exemplary trails of local and regional significance. The trails at RMANWR and Two Ponds are now recognized as part of America's national system of trails and join over 900 other trails nationwide. Our trails, both at RMANWR and Two Ponds will benefit from the prestige and increased visibility of being a part of the National Trail System. The RMANWR and Two Ponds trails met the four criteria for NRT designation: The trails are open for public use and are designed, constructed, and maintained according to best management practices, in keeping with the use anticipated. They are in compliance with applicable land use plans and environmental laws. They will be open for public use for at least 10 consecutive years after designation. The NRT designation is supported by the refuge managers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Weekend Closure

Saturday, July 9 and Sunday, July 10 the Refuge will be closed due to a remediation project.



Help Wanted!

Trail rovers are needed on Saturdays and especially on Sundays. Call Jeannine at (303) 289-0471 to sign up!

Evening Trail Rovers Needed!

Trail rovers are needed on Saturday, June 4, Sunday, June 19, Saturday, July 2, and Sunday, July 17 from 4:00-8:30 pm. Contact Jeannine at (303) 289-0471 to sign up.

Arsenal Ambassadors Needed!



Volunteers are needed to help with Refuge outreach presentations. A training session will be on Wednesday, June 8 at 10 am in the Visitor Center. For more information please contact Sherry James at (303) 289-0659.